

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



USDA, NASS, Kentucky Field Office

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Kentucky Corn Acreage Up From Last Year

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the Acreage and Grain Stocks reports today, showing the Commonwealth's 2019 corn planted at 1,650,000 acres, up 23 percent from last year.

"This is the highest number of acres planted since 2012, when there were 1,650,000 acres planted," said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. "Too much rain was the big news story this year, but producers were able to plant most of their intended corn acres. Planting progress ran close to the 5-year average early in the season, before rains in the latter half of May slowed the pace. Those same rains interfered with soybean planting, tobacco setting and hay harvest, but growers made progress as weather allowed."

Acres harvested for grain was estimated at 1.55 million acres, up 320,000 acres from last year. The U.S. corn planted for all purposes in 2019 was estimated at 91.7 million acres, up 3 acres from last year. Growers expect to harvest 83.6 million acres for grain, up 2 percent from last year.

Soybeans planted in Kentucky were estimated at 1.70 million acres, down 300,000 acres from 2018. Acres harvested for grain, at 1.69 million acres, was 300,000 acres below acres a year ago. U.S. soybean planted area for 2019 was estimated at 80.0 million acres, down 10 percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 79.3 million acres, is down 10 percent from 2018.

Farmers in Kentucky intend to set an estimated 45,000 acres of burley tobacco for harvest. This was down 5,000 from the 2018 level. Dark fire-cured tobacco acreage set was estimated at 8,000 acres, down 3,000 acres from the previous year. Dark air-cured tobacco acreage was estimated at 5,000 acres, down 2,100 from a year ago. Burley producing states acreage for harvest was estimated at 52,100 acres, 15 percent below last year.

Winter wheat seeded acreage in Kentucky was estimated at 460,000 acres, 10,000 acres above the previous year. Acreage harvested for grain was estimated at 320,000 acres, 20,000 acres above 2018. The U.S. Winter wheat planted area was estimated at 31.8 million acres, down 2 percent from 2018. Area harvested for grain was forecast at 24.9 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.

Alfalfa hay acreage in Kentucky was estimated at 115,000 acres, down 30,000 from the 2018 crop. All other hay was estimated at 2.00 million acres, up 250,000 from a year ago. The U.S. All hay acreage was estimated at 52.8 million acres, down slightly from 2018.

Planted and Harvested Acres, June 2019 - Kentucky and United States

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	Kentucky				United States			
	Planted ¹		Harvested		Planted ¹		Harvested	
	2018	2019	2018	2019 ²	2018	2019	2018	2019 ²
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Corn	1,340	1,650	1,230	1,550	89,129	91,700	81,740	83,595
Soybeans	2,000	1,700	1,990	1,690	89,196	80,040	88,110	79,266
Wheat, Winter ³	450	460	300	320	32,535	31,778	24,742	24,924
Hay:								
All			1,895	2,115			52,839	52,773
Alfalfa			145	115			16,608	16,828
Other, All			1,750	2,000			36,231	35,945
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Tobacco:								
All			68,100	58,000			291,430	235,820
Burley			50,000	45,000			61,050	52,100
Dark Fire-Cured			11,000	8,000			18,880	14,620
Dark Air-Cured			7,100	5,000			9,900	6,900

¹ Commodities with planted estimates not available are (*denoted by "--"*). ² Forecasted. ³ Includes area planted in preceding fall.